



Centrix Incorporated

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Date: March 10, 2014

To: The Labor and Public Employees Committee

Re: Letter of support for HB 5314, Unemployment Compensation Tax Relief

I am William P. Dragan, President of Centrix, Inc., a dental manufacturer located in Shelton, Connecticut.

I am writing to express my support for HB 5314, which would use an estimated \$60 million of the projected state budget surplus to be used to pay a portion of the balance of interest owed on funds the state borrowed from the federal government to keep Connecticut's unemployment compensation system afloat.

Centrix's unemployment compensation taxes are already too high. Our rate goes up each year even if we don't have anyone leave our employ. Taxes are a significant cost factor in our business plans. In addition to our unemployment taxes, we are also paying a federal tax that increases every year, plus special assessments each July. This burden is too much to bear on our own.

This is just another example of why employers are not willing to bring their businesses into Connecticut and many already here are choosing to leave the state—the cost of running a business in Connecticut is too high!

I urge you to support HB 5314 because it will benefit our business, Connecticut's economy and prospects for more jobs in the state. Thank you.

Sincerely,

William P. Dragan, President

Centrix, Inc.